

The Commoner.

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WANTED—In every precinct, an agent to take subscriptions for **THE COMMONER**.

President Diaz of the Mexican Republic sent a special messenger to El Paso, Texas to extend greeting to President McKinley.

Mr. Philander Knox has not yet shown a disposition to endanger the \$50,000 a year portion of his salary by trying to earn the \$8,000 portion thereof.

It has been some time since Kitchener has said, "I regret to state." This may be due to the fact that Kitchener is managing to keep out of DeWet's way.

Jacksonville, Fla., was recently visited by a disastrous fire which destroyed more than ten million dollars worth of property and left ten thousand people homeless.

New York's "400" has just learned that it has been wining and dining a bogus nobleman. But the "400's" love for a real live lord causes it to take some desperate chances.

All the protection that an American industry needs when backed by American skill and ingenuity is protection against the rapacity of modern jugglers of financial stocks.

A London paper calls J. Pierpont Morgan the "Bonaparte of trade." Napoleons of finance have existed before, but the St. Helena of bankruptcy is covered with their bones.

The soundness of Senator McLaurin's democracy may be measured by noting that it is receiving the plaudits of the men who have opposed democratic principles all their lives.

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Harvard university might compromise the dispute by conferring upon the president the C. D. degree. He may not be a Doctor of Laws but he has been doctoring the constitution.

Scientists are trying to frighten the people by predicting the exhaustion of the fuel supply, but it has no effect on Messrs. Carnegie, Morgan and Rockefeller. They have money to burn.

The father of the new secretary of the Turkish legation at Washington can read, write and speak twenty different languages. He needs them all when he takes the stove down for summer.

The rumor that the republican party will abandon the doctrine of protection probably had its inception in the fact that one of the infants shows a sign of refusing to yield to the persuasive power of the frying pan.

It would be a good joke on the president if the Attorney-General should take advantage of his chief's absence to annihilate the billion dollar steel combiné, but probably he would regard such an act as a breach of trust.

The "bazaar" fall seems to have died out in Great Britain. That handful of Dutch farmers has outlasted the British outburst of charitable patriotism. Tommy Atkins is now left to do the fighting and shift for himself.

It appears that the banishing of editors from Manila would not serve to keep secret the speculations of army officers. It would seem that a mistake was made in not banishing the army officers and allowing the editors to remain.

Up to date no word of protest has been heard concerning the hauling down of the flag from the Walls of Peking, where it had been raised by American valor. The vociferous patriots seem to be overlooking a few opportunities for vocal exhibitions.

The editor of **THE COMMONER** is grateful to the Seattle Times for defending him against the criticism of the San Francisco Call. But the Call is so completely and hopelessly given over to the worship of Mammon that its condemnation is highly complimentary.

The fact that some of the army officers in the Philippines have commenced to steal the rations of the American soldiers, would indicate that the native pasturage is getting short, for it is only fair to assume that American soldiers would be spared as long as possible.

By carefully protecting the lumber industry we have managed to denude our forests, make a few lumber barons rich and tax men enterprising and thrifty enough to build their own homes. Now Canada has the forests and we have the stumps and drouth and lumber combines.

It will be perfectly proper for Americans to contribute to the fund to erect a memorial to the late Queen Victoria, but it would be better and much more in taste if Americans would first erect memorials to a number of Americans whose graves are neglected.

Minister Conger's reception in De Moines would have been much warmer had he taken the pains to announce beforehand that under no circumstances would he be a candidate for governor. Then all the candidates would have turned out and made up an enthusiastic crowd of welcomers.

Kaiser Wilhelm construes as lese majeste any cartoon of him and punishes the offender by throwing him into jail. General Wood does the same thing. Lese Majeste is something new under the American flag, but many new and strange things have crept in since the adoption of the policy of imperialism.

Our great and good friend, Abdul Hamid Woolomol, Sultan of Sulu and Defender of the Faithful, may feel slighted because he is not on the visiting list of the president during the present swing around the circle. However, Abdul Hamid Woolomel will call it square if his salary is slightly increased.

The Arkansas senate has passed a bill requiring men who desire to drink to take out a license. Will the legislators charge a small sum for a license to drink occasionally, a larger sum for a license to drink regularly and the maximum fee for a license to drink all the time? If the ability of the licensee to pay is taken into consideration the rule ought to be reversed.

The army contractors and gold speculators of Great Britain who are profiting now or expect to profit in the future from the annexation and subjugation of the Transvaal are inclined to look upon Sir Michael Hicks-Beach as a prophet of gloom. Sir Michael is showing the British taxpayer that he is footing the bills of an expensive scheme to enrich a few men.

Since Aguinaldo has learned from the Manila censor the views of his own countrymen and has reconciled himself to the methods employed in his capture, he is being treated with more respect by the republican papers. If he will accept a lucrative position with Congressman Hull's Philippine Lumber and Development Co., he may yet become the George Washington of the Orient.

In New Zealand a telegram containing twelve words is sent anywhere in that country upon payment of twelve cents. In this country so many people who can afford to pay for their telegrams carry telegraph franks that New Zealand prices are impossible. The telegraph companies take good care to distribute the franks where they will do the most good—to the telegraph companies.